

SENATE No. 256

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Jennifer L. Flanagan

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to the promotion of mental health education in Massachusetts high schools.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Jennifer L. Flanagan</i>	<i>Worcester and Middlesex</i>	
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/31/2017</i>
<i>Danielle W. Gregoire</i>	<i>4th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2017</i>
<i>Hannah Kane</i>	<i>11th Worcester</i>	<i>2/1/2017</i>
<i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>	<i>1st Worcester</i>	<i>2/1/2017</i>
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Colleen M. Garry</i>	<i>36th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>3rd Berkshire</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Kate D. Campanale</i>	<i>17th Worcester</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Joan B. Lovely</i>	<i>Second Essex</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Gailanne M. Cariddi</i>	<i>1st Berkshire</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Julian Cyr</i>	<i>Cape and Islands</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Anne M. Gobi</i>	<i>Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Sarah K. Peake</i>	<i>4th Barnstable</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>

SENATE No. 256

By Ms. Flanagan, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 256) of Jennifer L. Flanagan, Kay Khan, Danielle W. Gregoire, Hannah Kane and other members of the General Court for legislation to promote mental health education in Massachusetts high schools. Education.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 2329 OF 2015-2016.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act relative to the promotion of mental health education in Massachusetts high schools.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 71 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by inserting after section 3, the following section: -

3 Section 3A. Mental health education.

4 Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, all public high schools in the
5 commonwealth may incorporate an optional mental health promotion component to the
6 Massachusetts comprehensive health education curriculum for public high school students. The
7 mental health promotion component shall meet all standards which guide the existing
8 comprehensive health education curriculum. The mental health section may supplement the
9 comprehensive health education curriculum by providing instruction in areas including, but not

- 10 limited to: mental health, mental illness, teenage brain development, stress management,
- 11 physical health, violence prevention, ecological and community health and mental illness stigma.